

Message Text

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41

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

L-03 TRSE-00 /028 R

DRAFTED BY ARA-LA/PAN:ENADEAU:JVC

APPROVED BY ARA-LA/PAN:ENADEAU

----- 051321

P 301517Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BDIS, PN

SUBJECT: FERTILIZER SALE PROBLEM

1. DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED SEVERAL PHONE CALLS AND FINALLY A TELEX FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMODITIES EXPORT COMPANY (ICEC) ON UNWILLINGNESS OF COAGRO TO FULFILL ITS ALLEGED CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS IN THE PURCHASE OF 7,273 TONS OF FERTILIZER.

2. TELEX INDICATES IN ESSENCE THAT EMBASSY EFFORTS ON THEIR BEHALF HAD BEEN WITHOUT RESULT AND THAT EMBASSY UNWILLING EXERT ADDITIONAL PRESSURE. TELEX ALSO BRINGS OUT FACT THAT COAGRO IS RECIPIENT OF AID FUNDS AND REQUESTS ACTIVE INTERVENTION OF ADDRESSEES (ROGERS, RYAN AND KATZ) TO RESOLVE PROBLEM.

3. PRIOR TO RECEIPT OF TELEX, AMBASSADOR RYAN SENT A LETTER 9/24 WITH COPY TO EMBASSY RESPONDING TO RYAN/ICEC TELCON. LETTER POINTED OUT: (A) THAT TRANSACTION WAS TO HAVE BEEN FINANCED FROM PANAMANIAN NOT AID SOURCES; (B) STEPS THAT EMBASSY HAD TAKEN; (C) THAT OUR ABILITY

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TO INFLUENCE COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS/PROBLEMS THROUGH

DIPLOMATIC MEANS IS LIMITED; AND (D) THAT ICEC MIGHT
WISH TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE LEGAL REMEDIES. LETTER ALSO

CONCLUDED THAT EMBASSY WAS DOING ALL THAT COULD
REASONABLY BE DONE TO RESOLVE PROBLEM OF THIS TYPE,
WOULD CONTINUE TO FOLLOW UP, AND THAT WE WOULD KEEP ICEC
INFORMED.

4. PLEASE PROVIDE CURRENT STATUS REPORT INCLUDING WHAT
ADDITIONAL STEPS, IF ANY, MIGHT BE TAKEN TO ASSIST ICEC.
INGERSOLL

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